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R Ø423592 MAR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 8231 BT UNCLAS STATE 049108 INFORM CONSULS-E.O. 11652:N/A TAGS: APER, XX SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE LIMITING HIRING 1. IN A MEMORANDUM TO HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, THE PRESIDENT HAS IMPOSED A LIMITATION ON HIRING OF FEDERAL CIVILIAN WORKERS. LIMITATION APPLIES TO FOREIGN SERVICE LOCALS AS WELL AS U.S. CITIZEN EMPLOYEES OF USG. THIS MEASURE, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, LIMITS THE NUMBER APPOINTMENTS TO FULL-TIME POSITIONS TO NOT MORE THAN 75 OF THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES OCCURRING AFTER FEBRUARY 28, MEASURE WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL NEW EMPLOYMENT CEILINGS FOR FY 77 AND 78 ARE ESTABLISHED. IT IS OUR IN-FORMAL UNDERSTANDING THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EMPLOYMENT CEILINGS WILL BE COMPLETED WITHIN TWO MONTHS. WE EXPECT TO RECEIVE GUIDANCE FROM OMB ON THE IMPLEMEN-TATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S DIRECTIVE. WE ARE ALSO SEEKING INTERPRETATIONS, AND WILL KEEP POSTS INFORMED. IN THE MEAN+ TIME, POSTS SHOULD RESTRICT HIRING OF FSLS IN MARCH TO 75 OF THE ESTIMATED AND ACTUAL ATTRITION FOR MARCH. J. St. M. J. 4. INDIVIDUAL BUREAUS WILL PROVIDE SEPARATE GUIDANCE ON IMPLEMENTING DIRECTIVE. CHRISTOPHER